

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-11 IO-14

L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-04 OMB-01 PA-04 PM-07 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-07

DRC-01 /153 W

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R 021940Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7955

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 5411

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: DUTCH VIEWS ON INCLUSION OF NUCLEAR ELEMENTS
AND AIR MANPOWER

REF: STATE 215770

1. DCM AT NETHERLANDS DELEGATION (BUWALDA) AND NETHERLANDS DELEGATION
OFFICER WORKING ON MBFR (SIZOO) CALLED ON US MISSION POLITICAL
COUNSELOR AND MISSION OFFICER ON OCTOBER 2.

2. BUWALDA EXPLAINED THE BACKGROUND TO RECENT DUTCH SECOND CHAMBER
APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION BY GOVERNMENT PARTIES CALLING FOR INCLUSION
OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND TACTICAL AIR FORCES IN MBFR.
RESOLUTION CALLED ON DUTCH GOVERNMENT TO PROPOSE INCLUSION OF
THESE ELEMENTS IN MBFR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. DUTCH GOVERNMENT HAD
CHOICE OF ACCEPTING, REJECTING OR INTERPRETING THIS RESOLUTION.

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DUTCH GOVERNMENT CHOSE TO INTERPRET IT AND FONMIN VAN DER STOEL
INFORMED SECOND CHAMBER THAT THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT WOULD DO
THIS "AT SOME MOMENT", THUS LEAVING TO GOVERNMENT
CONSIDERABLE FLEXIBILITY. THE RESOLUTION BY DUTCH GOVERNMENT

PARTIES REFLECTS STRONG BELIEF IN PARLIAMENT THAT NETHERLANDS SHOULD BE MORE ACTIVE IN MBFR, AND THAT DUTCH SHOULD REDUCE UNILATERALLY IF THERE ARE NO BFR REDUCTIONS MY MID-1975. BUWALDA ASKED WHERE THE US NOW STANDS ON INCLUSION OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN MBFR.

3. MISSION POLITICAL ADVISOR SAID THAT US HAD PUT OPTION III ON THE TABLE SOME TIME AGO, AND THAT US STILL HAD OPTION III UNDER REVIEW. THE US GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, HAD REACHED NO DECISION ON WHEN IT MIGHT RETURN TO OPRION III IN ALLIED DISCUSSIONS. THE NEXT STEP WE SEE IN MBFR, AFTER A DISCUSSION OF REDEFINITION OF GROUND FORCES WITH THE OTHER SIDE, IS TO MOVE TO THE QUESTION OF AIR MANPOWER. IN VIEW OF THE IMMEDIATE WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE WITHIN THE ALLIANCE ON AIR MANPOWER, IT PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE WISE TO ALSO INTRODUCE THE NUCLEAR ISSUE AT THE SAME TIME.

4. BUWALDA SAID, REFARDING THE US PROPOSALS ON AIR MANPOWER, THAT THE HAGUE COULD PROBABLY ACCEPT A NON-INCREASE AGREEMENT ON AIR MANPOWER. HOWEVER, THE HAGUE WAS HESITANT TO REDUCE AIR MANPOWER. ANY REDUCTION ABOVE FIVE PERCENT COULD START TO REDUCE NUMBER OF PLANES, US REDUCTIONS IN PHASE I WOULD SET AN EXAMPLE FOR OTHER ALLIES IN PHASE II. THE NETHERLANDS WOULD NOT WANT TO TAKE A 15 PERCENT CUT IN AIR MANPOWER IN PHASE II. REGARDING THE US PROPOSALS ON CSCE-MBFR LINKAGE, BUWALDA SAID THE NETHERLANDS HAD ALWAYS BEEN IN FAVOR OF LINKAGE. HE THOUGHT THE DUTCH REACTION WOULD BE POSITIVE, IN VIEW OF THE RELATIVE SHIFT IN DUTCH EMPHASIS FROM GENEVA TO VIENNA. HE THOUGHT THE ALLIES WOULD NEED TO DEFINE CAREFULLY THE MINIMUM CONCESSIONS THEY WOULD ACCEPT FROM THE OTHER SIDE IN VIENNA, AND THE MAXIMUM CONCESSIONS THEY WOULD MAKE TO THE OTHER SIDE IN GENEVA, IN ANY CSCE-MBFR LINKAGE. HE THOUGHT THE MINIMUM CONCESSIONS IN VIENNA WOULD HAVE TO BE SIZEABLE, SUCH AS PACT ACCEPTANCE OF THE COMMON CEILING. ALLIES WOULD HAVE TO FACE THE DANGER THAT THE PACT BY SOME SMALL STEP IN VIENNA, WOULD SEEK TO FORCE WESTERN AGREEMENT IN CSCE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO05411
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741091/abbryxnv.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 215770
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: DUTCH VIEWS ON INCLUSION OF NUCLEAR ELEMENTS AND AIR MANPOWER
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Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005